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Suggestions to our Law-makers.

"Rustic's" Solution of the Liquor Question--The Concealed Weapon Law--The Introduction of So Many Bills Deprecated--Other Matters of Interest.

Ed. News: Old Noah had his forty days of rain; and now we are undergoing a shower of bills in our legislature. It seems that a majority of that body think they will be unable to face their constituents unless they introduce and push some silly stuff for enactment. Years ago they undertook to make a law on trespass, which was greatly disregarded. Many of them seemingly had failed to read their Bibles and find out that trespass had been punishable as common law ever since Abraham and Lot parted their cattle, each taking unto himself certain territory.—Hence legislation was useless on that subject.

It appears that members are not running over themselves and each other to fix up that rotten structure called the dispensary. This is indeed a difficult subject to handle: but it is to be hoped that some Solon will be found equal to the occasion who will ignore prejudice and offer a bill on broad, common sense lines.—Our people, as has been amply demonstrated since the dispensary was voted out, will certainly have their liquor to drink: it is perhaps the greater part of their religion to exercise this precious prerogative. It cannot be kept out of the state by legislation on the part of our Assembly; and, so long as it is imported, all the money paid for liquor and its transportation (or nearly all) is sent out of the state never to come back except in the shape of liquor to be quickly consumed; but, if this money were spent at home, a goodly portion would remain there.

Under our constitution as little as a drink of liquor may be sold, if legislature so enact: so we can have dispensary bar rooms, if so desired, operated under the same provisions and restrictions as have prevailed for years.—Why not have them and collect a heavy license and exact heavy bond for compliance with law etc.? Then let the seller buy where he pleases: but send an inspector around, who shall, on finding liquor impure beyond certain limits, pour out the stuff or destroy it in some way. These sellers will watch blind tigers more effectually than state constables; they may buy blockade liquor, but will not allow others to do so.

Physicians agree that wine made of apples, peaches, berries and so forth would be less hurtful than the vile stuff often imported—even might be conducive

to health. Then open the doors to grape and fruit culture of all kinds; remove the restrictions except such as are necessary to regulate manufacture and sale; allow makers to sell to any dispenser, or ship out of the state; encourage grape and tomato culture for wine making; and keep money at home. Then rocky places may be luxuriant with foliage and fruit; people would take pride in having such products in quantity and quality; apples and peaches would be cultivated to great extent; and thus our country would by this inducement be ready to supply any increased demand for all sorts of fruit, which would be more profitable than cotton.

As to the pistol law it has become almost a nullity. Almost daily we read of somebody shot by an unlawfully carried pistol. If the Assembly will not have the pistol law enforced, would not it be better to repeal it?—Would it not be better still to require a license tax on the privilege of carrying weapons concealed; inflict heavy punishment for carrying them without license; and let a record of such license be prime facie evidence that the carrier of concealed weapons is a dangerous person.

If our Solons would try to see how few bills they could consistently introduce and how few of them could be enacted, our people would be better off and better pleased. Let no law be made which can not be enforced; and enforce those that remain on the statute book after expunging the nullities.

Our people are glad to hear of Hazel Witherspoon's improvement, and we pray for his speedy restoration to health and strength.

Watch ground hog day!

Rustic.

Coon Hollow, Jan. 20th, 1906.

Schools Will Get Money From Dispensary Fund.

Columbia, Jan. 19.—Special to Greenville News: The Comptroller General will next week distribute over \$100,000 in school funds, these figures representing the school profits from the dispensary. The balance of money was turned over a few days ago by the Dispensary officers and every county will get a share. This is perhaps the most important feature of the whole matter, as the Supreme Court decided that every county in the state under the Brice law, was entitled to some of the funds. The Comptroller General has not yet received a notice of a stay in the proceedings pending an appeal to the Federal Court.

Mr. Henry Massey, of Rock Hill, was here yesterday.

Mr. Charles D Jones leaves today for Columbia to attend the annual meeting of the state bar association.

Aged Citizen Dead

Mr. R. T. McChain, who Lived Across the State Line, Died Friday.

Mr. R. T. McCain, an aged citizen of North Carolina, who resided just across the state line, died last Friday. He was an influential man in his community and commanded the respect and confidence of all who knew him.

Mr. McCain was about 80 years of age and is survived by the following children:

Messrs Brice and Willis McCain, Mrs. James McCain and Miss Maggie McCain.

Mr. McCain's remains were buried Saturday at Tizah church, of which he was a member.

What the Legislature is Doing this Week--House Passes Stringent Gambling Bill--Other Matters.

Columbia Record:

Mr. Sanders' bill against gambling dens and blind tigers, to require magistrates and police officers to diligently proceed against them under penalty was passed to its third reading. The bill requires police officers to make frequent, diligent investigations and report to their mayor or intendant once a week the presence of any gambling place or blind tiger, together with the names of the persons running the place, those doing the gambling or buying. The mayor or intendant is then required to turn over this report to the nearest magistrate, who is required to issue warrants and have arrests made. If either the policeman, mayor or the magistrate fails to do his duty he is guilty of a misdemeanor and is to be fined or imprisoned in the discretion of the court. The bill is evidently directed at graft in municipal police circles.

Mr. Sander's bill relative to correcting errors in judge's charges was the only other bill much discussed, and it was killed.

THE SENATE.

Petitions were presented by Senators Carlisle, of Spartanburg, and Brooks, of Greenwood, against the ten-hour law. One was presented by Senator Johnston against "bucket shops." Mr. E. B. Wesley, of New York, presented his annual claim as to Blue Ridge bonds, which was referred and which will go the usual way and not be granted.

Two bills by Senator Johnson, of Fairfield, passed second reading without debate. One was to prevent county commissioners and county supervisors to furnish supplies to the county during their terms. The other was to require clerks to offices in

the state house to give bond, \$10,000 for all except clerk of adjutant general, the bond of whom is to be \$5,000.

Senators Wells' bill to require the Coast Line to build suitable depot at Florence passed.

The various committee bills intended to bring about biennial sessions were made special order for Wednesday.

Senator Brooks' bill, as amended by the committee, relative to game wardens passed. It provides that county commissioners may pay such wardens a salary of \$100 per annum. It is not compulsory that such salary be paid, however. By the bill game wardens are exempt from road duty.

Senator Raysor's bill permitting towns of 100 inhabitants to establish fire limits in which buildings may not be erected was ordered to third reading.

Senator C. L. Blease's bill to require persons or firms using "& Co." in their business to place on record the names of the partners, passed without discussion.

Senator Marshall's bill to purchase 500 copies of Reynolds's history of reconstruction passed.

The joint resolution to authorize the secretary of state to purchase badly needed flags for the state house to take the place of the rags now flying from the dome unanimously passed.

The Nomination is Respectfully Declined.

Editor The Lancaster News: The bare act of sending to you for publication in the columns of your paper the communication in your issue of today proclaims sufficiently the spirit and animus of your correspondent "Voters," who ironically has suggested my name for Intendant of Kershaw, and it would not be noticed except that your readers outside the town of Kershaw might give it more serious consideration than it demands, were it not explained to them that the author only imagines himself trying to hold up to ridicule the attitude of the undersigned toward the late lamented dispensary. You will pardon my immodesty in saying that it gratifies me much that my position with reference thereto was so abundantly sustained not only in Kershaw, but throughout the entire county, the vote, if I remember correctly, being nearly eight to one, and, therefore, needs no defense.

I may add also that I have full confidence in the ability of whoever may be chosen in next Monday's election to serve as town officers to administer the affairs of the town successfully without the aid of liquor profits, whether "Voters" imagines it can be done or not, and my profound declination of his kind consideration is, therefore, in order, and is hereby given.

Very respectfully,
J. W. Hamel.
Kershaw, S. C., Jan 20, 1906.

The Corpse of Dargan is Found in the Grave.

Darlington, S. C., Jan. 19.—Today the committee appointed to open to the grave of R. K. Dargan, to find if his body was there, or if the story of his suicide and burial was a fake, cut through the cement and coffin and found the body there.

Every suspicion was dispelled, for the investigation proved satisfactory to both the committee of investigation and the representatives of the insurance companies in which the dead man had been insured.

Mr. F. W. Calkin, representative of the Fidelity Insurance company, was present at the opening of the grave and was thoroughly convinced that the body found was that of R. K. Dargan. Mr. Dargan had \$25,000 insurance in this company.

Rural Routes to be Discontinued if not "Appreciated."

Washington cor. the Columbia State:

Something is going to be done in the rural free delivery line before very long. The postoffice department is going to discontinue a large number of routes, those on which the service is not "appreciated" is the way it is put in the offices of the department. I asked Mr. Spillman, the superintendent of the rural free delivery service, yesterday what he meant by "appreciated."

"Why," said he, "where the people are not using the service."

"But you have recently issued an order directing that the counting of the mail pieces be discontinued, how are you going to tell whether they are using the service or not?"

"Whenever we have reason to believe that the service is not being appreciated we will send out inspectors over the route and have them report on it. Then we will order the number of pieces handled counted for a given period."

Representative Johnson in talking with me about this matter a few days ago said that the best way for the country part of South Carolina to make their routes is to begin them more, and the best cheapest way to do this is to begin taking more daily paper. Each paper counts a piece of mail handled, the paper is a good thing for the man to have, he ought to take it anyway; and so like the quality of mercy it blesses him who gives and him who takes.

—According to the government's report, made public yesterday, 9,998,000 bales of cotton were ginned up to 15th instant. The figures were considered bearish and prices tumbled accordingly.